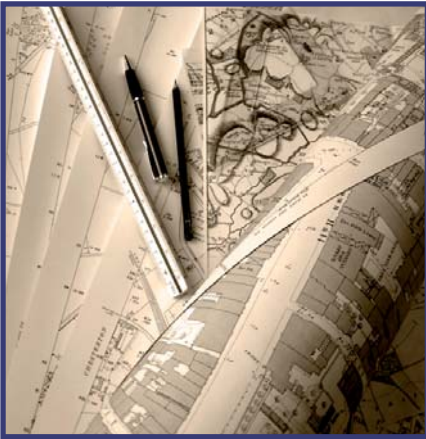


19 Between Towns Rd Oxford Oxfordshire



Archaeological Evaluation Report

oxfordarchaeology



southsouthsouth

January 2015

Client: LATIS Ltd

Issue No: 1

NGR: SP 544 041



Client Name: LATIS Ltd
Client Ref No:
Document Title: 19 Between Towns Rd, Oxford, Oxfordshire
Document Type: Evaluation Report
Issue/Version Number: 1
Grid Reference: SP 544 041
Planning Reference: 14/02850/FUL
Site Code: OXBTN14
Invoice Code: OXBTNEV
Receiving Museum: Oxfordshire County Museum Service
Museum Accession No: 2015.2

Issue	Prepared by	Checked by	Approved by	Signature
1	James Mumford Project Officer	Paul Booth Project Manager	Ian Scott Project Manager PX	

Document File Location X:\o\Oxford_Between_Towns_Road\002Reports
Graphics File Location \\Server8\invoice codes i thru q\O_codes\OXBTNEV
Illustrated by Markus Dylewski, Conan Parsons

Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees, and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

© Oxford Archaeology Ltd 2015

Janus House

Osney Mead

Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263800

e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk

f: +44 (0) 1865 793496

w: oxfordarchaeology.com

Oxford Archaeology Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627



19 Between Towns Rd, Oxford, Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Written by James Mumford and Paul Booth

and illustrated by Markus Dylewski and Conan Parsons

Table of Contents

Summary.....	4
1 Introduction.....	5
1.1 Location and scope of work.....	5
1.2 Project Details.....	5
1.3 Geology and topography.....	5
1.4 Archaeological and Historical Background.....	5
1.5 Acknowledgements.....	8
2 Evaluation Aims and Methodology.....	9
2.1 Aims.....	9
2.2 Methodology.....	9
3 Results.....	10
3.1 Introduction and presentation of results.....	10
3.2 General soils and ground conditions.....	10
3.3 Trench 1 (Figs 2 and 4).....	10
3.4 Trench 2 (Figs 3 and 4).....	10
3.5 Trench 3 (Figs 3 and 4).....	10
3.6 Finds summary.....	11
3.7 Environmental summary.....	11
4 Discussion.....	12
4.1 Reliability of field investigation.....	12
4.2 Evaluation objectives and results.....	12
4.3 Interpretation.....	12
4.4 Significance.....	13
Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory.....	14
Appendix B. Finds Reports, by Paul Booth.....	16
B.1 Pottery.....	16
B.2 Animal bone	16
B.3 Miscellaneous.....	17



Appendix C. Bibliography and References.....18

Appendix D. Summary of Site Details.....19



List of Figures

- Fig. 1 Site location map
- Fig. 2 Trench locations
- Fig. 3 Trench plans
- Fig. 4 Sections
- Fig. 5 White ware pottery moulded face



Summary

Oxford Archaeology undertook evaluation trenching at the site of Cowley Conservative Club (19 Between Towns Road) in January 2015 in advance of determination of a planning application for redevelopment of the site. The site lies immediately adjacent to one of the foci of the nationally important Oxford Roman pottery industry, and the presence of possible kilns and other features within the site was suggested by an earlier geophysical survey. Three trenches were excavated, of which only Trench 2, targeted specifically on key geophysical anomalies, contained features of Roman date, principally represented by a late Roman pit which had been heavily truncated by modern features. The small pottery assemblage from this feature included a rare white ware flagon face mask. Trench 1 contained no features, while a small pit in Trench 3 was of post-medieval date. Irregular patches of stone in this area were probably a natural formation. The contents of the pit in Trench 2 are consistent with immediately local production but there was no evidence for kiln structures or related material and the evaluated area may lie towards the margins of the Cowley production site.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a three trench evaluation in the car park at the rear of Cowley Conservative Club at 19 Between Towns Road, Oxford (centred on SP 544 041) (Figs 1 and 2).

1.2 Project Details

1.2.1 Oxford Archaeology were appointed by Latis Ltd to carry out an archaeological evaluation prior to the construction of a four storey building at 19 Between Towns Road, Oxford (centred on SP 544 041). The construction will follow on from demolition and will consist of a retail shop and social club on the ground floor plus 20 1-bed, 17 2-bed and 8 3-bed flats. There will also be provision for 26 car parking spaces and cycle spaces.

1.2.2 The client has applied for planning permission (ref: 14/02850/FUL) in relation to the proposed development. The application has yet to be determined.

1.2.3 The Oxford City Council Archaeologist required an archaeological evaluation to be carried out based on the potential for Roman remains, including possible pottery kilns, to be encountered in this location. A brief was set by David Radford detailing Oxford City Council's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process.

1.2.4 The primary requirement of the brief was that the evaluation should '*gather sufficient information to generate a reliable predictive model of the extent, character, date, state of preservation and depth of burial of important archaeological remains within the area of study*'

1.2.5 Specific requirements included the need to '*Establish the character and extent of Roman remains, including the depth and coherence of the three possible kiln features within the proposed building footprint and the related manufacturing infrastructure that may be anticipated in this locality.*'

1.2.6 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; OA 2014) was produced in response to the brief, setting out the methodologies that would be employed to address the requirements, and a provisional programme of work.

1.3 Geology and topography

1.3.1 The site at 19 Between Towns Road, Oxford comprises approximately 750m² of flat tarmac and concrete car park at the rear of the property at NGR SP 544 041.

1.3.2 The geology of the area is of the Corallian Group consisting of limestone, sandstone, siltstone and mudstone (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain>).

1.4 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.4.1 The archaeological and historical background to the site has been described in detail with full references in a Desk-based Assessment of 2011 (OA 2011), and will not be reproduced in full here, but the salient points, as summarised in the WSI, are highlighted here.

Prehistoric Period (500,000 BP–AD 43)

1.4.2 There is no evidence for activity in the area until the Iron Age. A sequence of ditches of that date has been recorded at nearby Rose Hill. There is also evidence of quarrying and a single findspot of a gold coin.

**Roman Period (AD 43–410)**

- 1.4.3 The site lies within an area known to be one of the foci of the nationally important Oxfordshire Roman pottery industry, component elements of which extend across east and south Oxford and beyond. With origins in the late 1st/early 2nd century, by the late Roman period this was amongst the three or four most important pottery industries in the whole of Britain, with a range of specialist products distributed over a very wide area.
- 1.4.4 Roman pottery was identified within the areas of proposed development during construction of the Cowley Conservative Club in 1934 and during further work on the site in 1969 (Young 1973, 215). A number of archaeological investigations have been carried out close to the area of proposed development. In 1939-40 excavations by the Oxford University Archaeological Society at the southern corner of the junction of Between Towns Road and St Luke's Road, c 60m to the south-west, uncovered a Roman pottery kiln and a range of related features (Atkinson 1941). This site was included within a larger area of redevelopment examined in 1981 and 1982, which produced evidence for perhaps as many as five more kilns and associated features (Green 1983). Meanwhile, excavation in 1972 on the site of Telephone Exchange fronting onto St Luke's Road revealed more features related to pottery production, including the probable stokehole of a kiln lying only 25m south-west of the present site (Young 1973).
- 1.4.5 Pottery production in the areas just described was carried out from the 2nd to 4th centuries AD, but with the main emphasis of activity in the 2nd and 3rd centuries. A particular feature is evidence for production of mortaria in the 2nd century, including vessels marked with makers' stamps, amongst which are examples of Vossullus, the only potter in the entire industry known to have used a literate stamp.
- 1.4.6 Other kiln sites have also been identified in the Cowley area relatively close to the proposed development, on Crescent Road, c 650m north of the area of proposed development, on the line of the Eastern Bypass, c 950m to the south, and on Temple Road, c 350m north of the present site.
- 1.4.7 Evidence for possible Roman burials was found at Cowley Barracks Quarry, c 850m north of the area of proposed development, in 1920 and 1977. More evidence for Roman activity has been found behind Cowley Police Station, c 200m west of the area of proposed development, and at the King of Prussia site on Rose Hill, c 1km to the west.

Early Medieval Period (AD 410–1066)

- 1.4.8 The manor of Cowley was in existence before the end of this period and the name itself has Saxon origins (VCH V 1957). There is little archaeological evidence for activity of this period, except for indications of quarrying seen c 750m north of the present site.

Later Medieval Period (AD 1066-1550)

- 1.4.9 During this period the area of proposed development lay within the parish of Cowley, where there were two manors, Church Cowley and Temple Cowley, where the Knights Templar had a preceptory. There was also a hamlet, Middle Cowley, centred on Hockmore Street, which was a detached part of Iffley parish (VCH V 1957, 76).
- 1.4.10 Excavations in the vicinity of the former Temple Cowley manor, c 250m north of the area of the site have identified several medieval features, including walls, pits and remains of buildings.



Post-Medieval Period (AD 1550-present)

- 1.4.11 The earliest available historic map to show the site is Davis' Map of Oxford, of 1797. The site is shown within an area of limited development and small inclosures between Church Cowley and Temple Cowley. At that date Between Towns Road did not exist and the road north to Temple Cowley, Surman's Lane, ran further to the east, emerging onto the Garsington Road opposite Hollow Way (VCH V 1957, 78).
- 1.4.12 When inclosure took place, between 1849-56, the road network changed considerably and Between Towns Road, then often known as High Street, replaced Surman's Lane.
- 1.4.13 By 1886 the site lay within one of the small, regular fields between Temple Cowley and Middle Cowley (Ordnance Survey Map 1st edn.).
- 1.4.14 The 1921-2 Ordnance Survey Map shows that the area of proposed development was still a field at that date, known as The Village Green.
- 1.4.15 The Cowley Conservative Club was constructed in 1934 on the Between Towns Road frontage. An emerging network of residential streets is shown in the surrounding area on the 1938 edition of the Ordnance Survey map, although the land to the south and east of the area of proposed development was still unaffected by these developments.
- 1.4.16 By 1960, the Ordnance Survey Map shows that St Luke's Road and Coleridge Close had been constructed.
- 1.4.17 In 1969 an extension was added to the rear of the Conservative Club building, which is shown on the 1975 Ordnance Survey Map, along with the row of garages at the rear of the site. This is the first map showing the alterations to the line of Between Towns Road following redevelopment of the Hockmore Street area to create the Cowley Centre.

Previous Archaeological Investigations

- 1.4.18 No formal archaeological investigation has been carried out within the site, although during construction of the Conservative Club buildings in both 1934 and 1969 quantities of Roman pottery were recovered. The material found in 1934 is held at the Ashmolean Museum (accession AN1936.151-153) – the pottery recovered in 1969 is not clearly distinguished from that found elsewhere in the Between Towns Road area.
- 1.4.19 Excavations and salvage recording in the areas immediately adjacent to the south and south-west have been described above.
- 1.4.20 In 1989 Oxford Archaeological Unit found Roman pottery and medieval features close to Cowley Police Station, c 200m north-west of the area of proposed development. A watching brief by Oxford Archaeology at Our Lady's School in 2002, c 100m north-east of the area of proposed development, did not identify any archaeological features.

Geophysical Survey

- 1.4.21 A geophysical survey was undertaken at 19 Between Towns Road, Oxford by Stratascan (Stratascan 2011). The survey identified weak evidence for possible kilns in the central region of the survey area. Discrete, moderately high magnitude anomalies, possibly related to thermoremanent features, were identified in the gradiometer data. No corresponding features were evident in the GPR data. Stratascan's report concludes that this 'may suggest that they are at a depth of greater than 1.75m' (Stratascan 2011, 10).

1.5 Acknowledgements

- 1.5.1 Thanks are owed to the client, Krishan Pattni of Latis Group, and to Mr G Dixon, Chariman of the Cowley Conservative Club for facilitating access to the site. The site



work was undertaken by James Mumford and Meirion Prysor, with survey by Ashley Strutt. The project was managed by Paul Booth and the site was monitored for Oxford City Council by David Radford. Thanks to Alison Roberts for information on Ashmolean Museum accessions.



2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

General

2.1.1 The general aims and objectives of the evaluation were:

- To determine the extent, character, date, state of preservation and depth of burial of important archaeological remains;
- To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence;
- To relate the results to the city, county and regional period based resource assessments and research agendas available on the web:
http://thehumanjourney.net/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=553&Itemid=277
<http://www.oxford.gov.uk/PageRender/decP/OxfordArchaeologicalPlan.htm>
- To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of any proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;
- To disseminate the results through the production of a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum.

Specific aims and objectives

2.1.2 The specific aims and objectives of the evaluation were:

- To establish the character and extent of Roman remains, including the depth and coherence of possible kiln features within the proposed development area and the related pottery-manufacturing infrastructure that may be anticipated in this locality.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 Three small evaluation trenches were located within the area of the car park to the rear of the property. These were located to provide an even coverage of the site representing a 5.5% sample of the area. Trench 2 was positioned to cover two potentially significant geophysical anomalies that were located during the geophysical survey carried out by Stratascan (Stratascan 2011) and thought to be possible kiln-like anomalies.

2.2.2 The trenches were then opened using a JCB with a 1.6m ditching bucket after first removing the concrete and tarmac surface of the car park. The trenches were excavated to the top of the natural geology or first archaeological horizon. The trenches were then archaeologically recorded and any features exposed were hand excavated. After recording and monitoring the trenches were backfilled.



3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 A few general aspects of the site are outlined prior to presentation of descriptions of each of the three evaluation trenches. Details of all individual contexts within each trench are presented as a table below (Appendix A). A summary of the finds follows the trench descriptions and is followed in turn by a brief discussion of the results and their potential significance.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

3.2.1 The natural subsoil was generally a firm orange sand, with patches of eroded calcareous sandstone in Trench 3 (see below). A silty sand loam subsoil was identified in Trenches 1 and 3 but had been truncated in Trench 2. In Trenches 1 and 3 this deposit was overlaid with a very dark greyish brown sandy loam, probably a cultivated soil. All the trenches were covered with tarmac or concrete surfaces laid on rubble hardcore. Additional disturbance from drainage features was extensive in Trench 2. Ground conditions were good when the trenches were opened and recorded, but became wet subsequently.

3.3 Trench 1 (Figs 2 and 4)

3.3.1 This trench was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 8m x 2m x 0.74m. The orange sand natural (1003) was sealed by a 0.20m thick reddish brown silty sand loam subsoil (1002), overlaid in turn by a 0.38m thick very dark greyish brown sandy loam cultivated topsoil (1001). This lay directly beneath the 0.20m thick modern car park surface (1000) of tarmac on a hard core base. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded in the trench and no finds were located.

3.4 Trench 2 (Figs 3 and 4)

3.4.1 This trench was aligned south-east to north-west and measured 9m x 3m x 0.56m. The orange sand natural (2002) was cut in the north-eastern side of the trench by a large sub circular pit (2003) with steep sloping sides rounding to flattish base. It measured 4.2m across and 0.68m in depth and was filled with a grey brown silty sand loam (2004) with bone and pottery dating after c AD 270.

3.4.2 In the north-east trench edge the pit was seen to be overlaid by a thin layer (0.08m deep) of reddish brown silty sand loam subsoil (2001). This deposit was otherwise almost completely truncated by modern disturbance, mainly in the form of a large rubble-filled soakaway measuring 9m x 2.5m x 0.30m which extended across most of the trench (stopping on its north-east side just short of the edge of the trench) and the cut for which extended down into the natural subsoil, thereby removing most of layer 2001 and also a large part of pit 2003, much of which therefore only survived in section. The rubble deposit was also cut by drain pipe runs. It lay beneath the hardcore base (0.10m thick) for the 0.20m thick concrete car park surface.

3.5 Trench 3 (Figs 3 and 4)

3.5.1 This trench was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 8.6m x 1.6m x 0.6m. The orange sand natural (3000) incorporated in its upper part eroded calcareous sandstone fragments (3006) with clean dark reddish brown silty sand material around the stones. It is possible that these lay within a series of irregularly shaped natural features (3005), but overall more likely that the poorly defined edges of these 'features'



resulted from bioturbation at the margins of the stones, which are likely to have been a natural component of the variable local geology.

- 3.5.2 The stones were overlaid by a reddish brown silty sand loam subsoil (3002) up to 0.20m thick with was cut by a dug-out root hole (3003). This feature was sub rectangular in shape with near vertical or under cutting sides with a V shaped base. It measured 0.75m x 0.62m x 0.41m and was filled with dark brown silty sand loam (3004) with patches of sand and a few post-medieval coke fragments. Layer 3002 and fill 3004 were sealed by a 0.25m thick very dark greyish brown sandy loam cultivated topsoil (3001) which lay beneath the 0.30m thick concrete surface and hardcore base of the car park.No

3.6 Finds summary

- 3.6.1 The only finds of any significance comprised a small group of pottery from pit 2003 in Trench 2. The sherds are consistent with production in the Oxford industry, and presumably derived from immediately adjacent kilns. The group can be assigned to the period after AD 270. A later date, perhaps after AD 350, is possible but perhaps less likely. A notable piece within this small group is a face from a white ware flagon (Fig. 5).
- 3.6.2 The only other finds were a few fragments of animal bone also from pit 2003, and the coke fragments from the dug-out root hole (3004) in Trench 3.

3.7 Environmental summary

- 3.7.1 No deposits suitable for sampling for environmental remains were encountered and therefore no such samples were taken.



4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The site conditions at the time of opening and recording of the trenches were good. The exposed natural subsoil was clean and features, where present, were clearly visible. Truncation of archaeological deposits was a significant problem in Trench 2 but not elsewhere. The car park surfaces and associated hardcore had only impacted superficial soils of no archaeological significance in Trenches 1 and 3. Archaeological features and deposits would have survived beneath these layers (1002, 3001) had they been present. Notwithstanding the impacts of truncation in Trench 2, therefore, the results of the evaluation can be regarded as a reliable sample.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

4.2.1 The specific aim of the evaluation, to establish the character and extent of Roman deposits, was achieved within the limitations of the sample, but only one apparently discrete Roman feature was encountered, albeit one that is likely to have been associated with the pottery production activity attested in the adjacent area to the south.

4.2.2 Roman features were definitely absent in Trenches 1 and 3. The complete absence of 'background noise' evidence is notable. The only Roman pottery recovered was from a single feature (2003) in Trench 2. It is also notable that no fired clay, potentially indicative of kiln superstructures, was found. No significant archaeological evidence for activity of other periods was present.

4.2.3 The depth of actual and potential archaeological features, roughly 0.50m below modern ground level, is consistent with that recorded in the adjacent areas.

4.2.4 The features and deposits examined had no potential for recovery of environmental remains, but in this regard the sample cannot be considered reliable. The potential for recovery of charred plant remains from other isolated features in the general area is still unclear.

4.2.5 There was poor correlation between the results of the evaluation trenching and those of the geophysical survey, though interpretation of the latter was bound to be difficult because of the nature of the site. It is possible that one of the potential anomalies identified in the gradiometer survey as potential kilns (Stratscan 2011, 10) correlates with pit 2003 in Trench 2. At the very least it is clear that these anomalies do not represent kilns, and it is quite possible that they relate mainly to elements of modern disturbance and service features. The 'area of complexity' identified from the GPR data unsurprisingly correlates precisely with the substantial rubble-filled feature encountered in Trench 2.

4.3 Interpretation

4.3.1 Only a single Roman feature was encountered, and the absence of residual or redeposited Roman pottery and other material anywhere else within the site suggests a relatively low level of activity of this period in this part of the site. The significance of the pottery finds from earlier phases of construction on the present site remains unclear.

4.3.2 With the exception of a feature in Trench 3 that perhaps represented the position of a tree root grubbed out in relatively recent times (on the basis of the fragments of coke within its fill) there was no direct indication of activity of post-Roman date. The sequence in Trenches 1 and 3 suggests that a thick cultivated topsoil overlay a less



substantial subsoil above the natural. This is consistent with the historic map evidence which shows the site as field or open ground up to the 1930s.

- 4.3.3 The various intrusions encountered in Trench 2 can all be linked to work on the adjacent Conservative Club building, and are most likely directly associated with the building works of 1969.

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 The evaluation indicates that archaeological features will have survived in this part of the site except in areas of direct disturbance. Whether this is the case within the area of the standing building is less certain, but seems possible.
- 4.4.2 The present evidence suggests only a relatively low density of features associated with the Roman pottery industry. This may indicate that the sites lies at the periphery of the Between Towns Road production complex, but the density and distribution of features within such production areas can be very variable so this is difficult to judge.



APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1

General description Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of Tarmac surface laid on rubble base over and subsoil overlying a natural of silty sand.	Orientation	NE-SW
	Avg. depth (m)	0.32 m
	Width (m)	2 m
	Length (m)	8 m

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
1000	Layer	-	0.20	Modern surface and make up	-	-
1001	Layer	-	0.38	Subsoil	-	-
1002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-

Trench 2

General description Trench had been heavily truncated by modern rubble filled soakaway under concrete surface, which had cut a large Roman pit which cut the subsoil and natural of silty sand.	Orientation	SE-NW
	Avg. depth (m)	0.56 m
	Width (m)	3 m
	Length (m)	9 m

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
2000	Layer	-	0.30 m	Modern surface and make up	-	-
2001	Layer	-	0.28 m	Subsoil	-	-
2002	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
2003	Cut	4.2 m	0.68 m	Pit	-	-
2004	Fill	-	-	Fill of pit	Pottery and Bone	Roman

Trench 3

General description Trench was sealed below the modern car park surface, which sealed a topsoil over a dug out root hole. This cut the subsoil sealing a series of natural features in top of a natural of silty sand.	Orientation	SE-NW
	Avg. depth (m)	0.60 m
	Width (m)	1.6 m
	Length (m)	8.6 m

Contexts

Context no	Type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	Finds	Date
3000	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-
3001	Layer	-	0.25 m	Topsoil	-	-
3002	Layer	-	0.28 m	Subsoil	-	-



3003	Cut	0.62 m	0.41 m	Dug out root hole	-	-
3004	Fill	-	-	Fill of feature	Coke fragments	Post Medieval
3005	Cut	0.40 m	0.09m	Natural feature	-	-
3006	Fill	-	-	Fill of feature	-	-



APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS, BY PAUL BOOTH

B.1 Pottery

B.1.1 The evaluation produced 9 sherds (401g) of Roman pottery, all from the fill (2004) of pit 2003 in Trench 2. The sherds were recorded using the standard OA codes for late prehistoric and Roman pottery. The fabrics present were:

F51. Oxfordshire colour-coated ware. 5 sherds (176g). Includes rims of Young (1977) types C47 (dish) and C51 (bowl), a base from a ?flagon and two small body sherds.

M22. Oxfordshire white ware mortarium. 1 sherd (54g). Bead from a post-AD 240 type.

W10. Oxfordshire fine white ware. 1 sherd (61g). Face mask from a flagon.

O20. Oxfordshire coarse sandy oxidised ware. 1 sherd (104g). Jar base.

R10. Oxfordshire slightly sandy reduced coarse ware. 1 sherd (6g).

B.1.2 The sherds are all consistent with production in the Oxford industry, and presumably derived from immediately adjacent kilns. The group is not closely dated, but on the basis of Young's (1977, 158) dating of type C47 can at least be assigned to the period after AD 270. All the component sherds are potentially compatible with such a date. A later 4th century date is possible (see below).

B.1.3 As typical products of the Oxford industry the material is unremarkable, with the notable exception of the white ware flagon face mask (Fig. 5). The colour-coated face-mask flagon, Young type C11, while rare, is a well-established component of the late Roman Oxford industry. White ware face-mask flagons, by contrast, are very scarce. A mould for the production of such faces is known from Horsepath (Hassall 1952/3), and six face masks were found subsequently in the same area, probably derived from a single kiln (one of an estimated five in the field; Turner 1989). The only other examples known from an Oxford production site are two from the Churchill Hospital, categorised by Young as parchment ware (Young 1977, 84-5, type P3), for reasons which are not clear since there is no indication that these examples had the red paint decoration characteristic of this ware. A further smaller example, in a rather different style, perhaps from a flagon of Young type W15, is known from Beedon in Berkshire (Green 1985). Based on the chronology of W15, Green suggested a later 3rd century date for the Beedon example. By contrast, Young (1977, 84) assigns both P3 and the colour-coated form C11 to a late Roman date range, AD 350-400. At present there is insufficient evidence for the validity of this date to be assessed.

B.1.4 The Shotover face masks derived from a minimum of three different moulds, none of which was the same as the actual mould found earlier, though the similarity of two of them to the Churchill Hospital examples was noted (Turner 1989, 400). The present example is similar, but probably not identical, to faces B and C reported by Turner. There is no reason to suppose that it was not made at Cowley, and it therefore indicates a third production site for this distinctive form within the Oxford industry. In view of this, it is perhaps the more remarkable that examples of the type do not appear to be known from consumer sites in the region.

B.2 Animal bone

B.2.1 Context 2004, 2 pieces, 1 (53g) cattle astragalus and 1 (13g) – (5 frags prob all



join) unidentified from a large mammal (identifications by Lena Strid).

B.3 Miscellaneous

B.3.1 Three pieces (14g) of coke/clinker were recovered from fill 3004 in Trench 3, and two fragments (32g) of unworked natural stone (calcareous sandstone) were recovered from the same context.



APPENDIX C. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

- Atkinson R J C, 1941 A Romano-British Potters' Field at Cowley, Oxford, *Oxoniensia* **6**, 9-21
- Green, S, 1983 The Roman Pottery-Manufacturing site at Between Towns Road, Cowley, Oxford, *Oxoniensia* **48**, 1-12
- Green, S, 1985 An Oxfordshire face-neck flagon from Beedon, Berks, *Oxoniensia* **50**, 279-280
- Hassall, M, 1952/3 A pottery head from Horsepath, Oxon., *Oxoniensia* **17/18**, 231-234
- Lobel M D (ed), 1957 *Victoria History of the County of Oxford V* (VCH V)
- Oxford Archaeology, 2011 Site at St Luke's Road, Cowley, Desk-based Assessment report
- Oxford Archaeology, 2014 19 Between Towns Road, Oxford Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation
- Stratascan, 2011 19 Between Towns Road, Cowley. Geophysical Survey Report for LATIS Ltd
- Young, C J, 1973 The Roman Kiln Site at St Luke's Road, Cowley, Oxford, *Oxoniensia* **38**, 215-232
- Turner, J, 1989 Romano-British moulded heads from Shotover, *Oxoniensia* **54**, 399-400
- Young, C J, 1977 *The Roman pottery industry of the Oxford region*, Brit Archaeol Rep (Brit Ser) **43**, Oxford



APPENDIX D. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: 19 between Towns Road, Oxford

Site code: OXBTN 14

Grid reference: SP 544 041

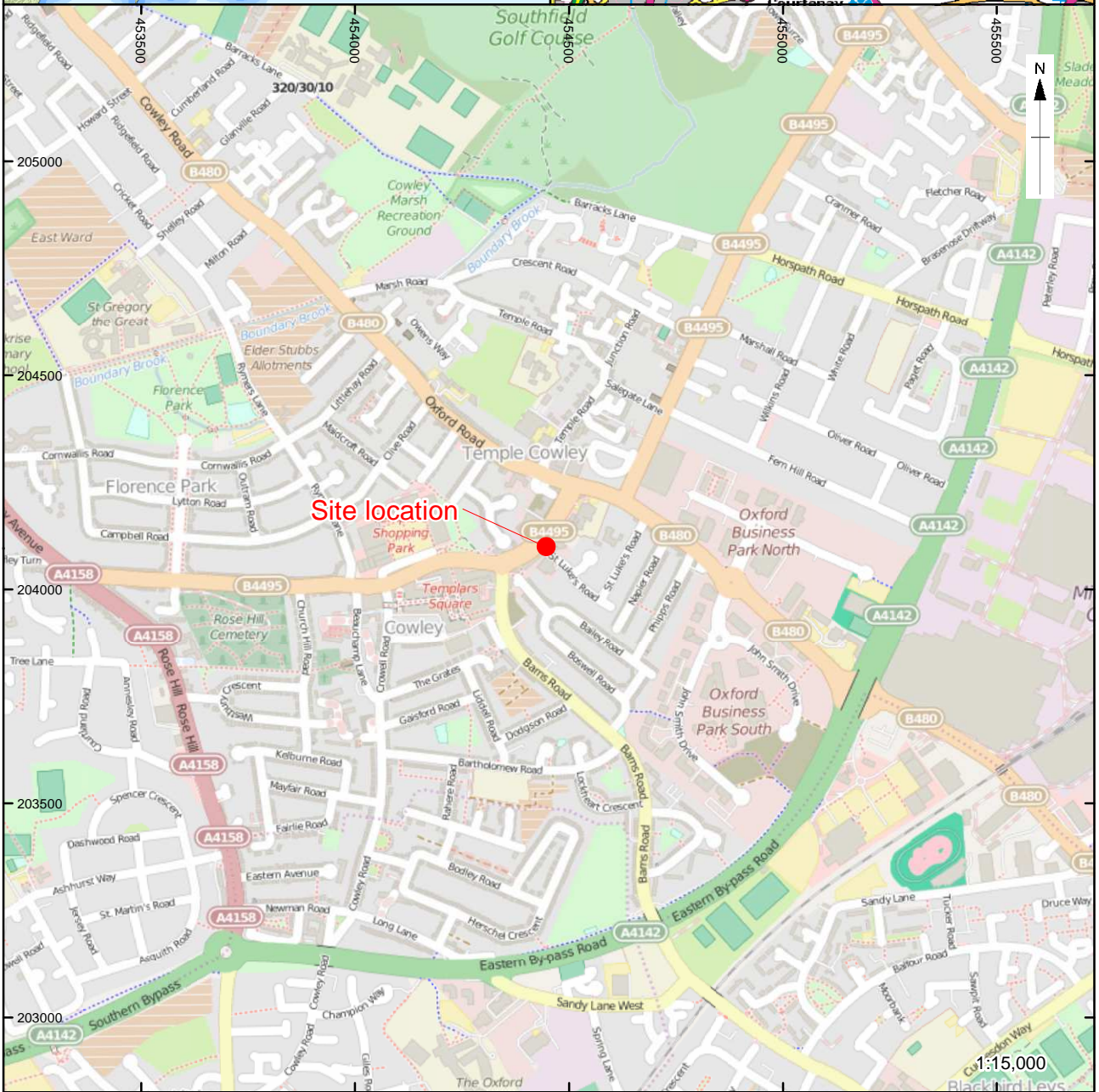
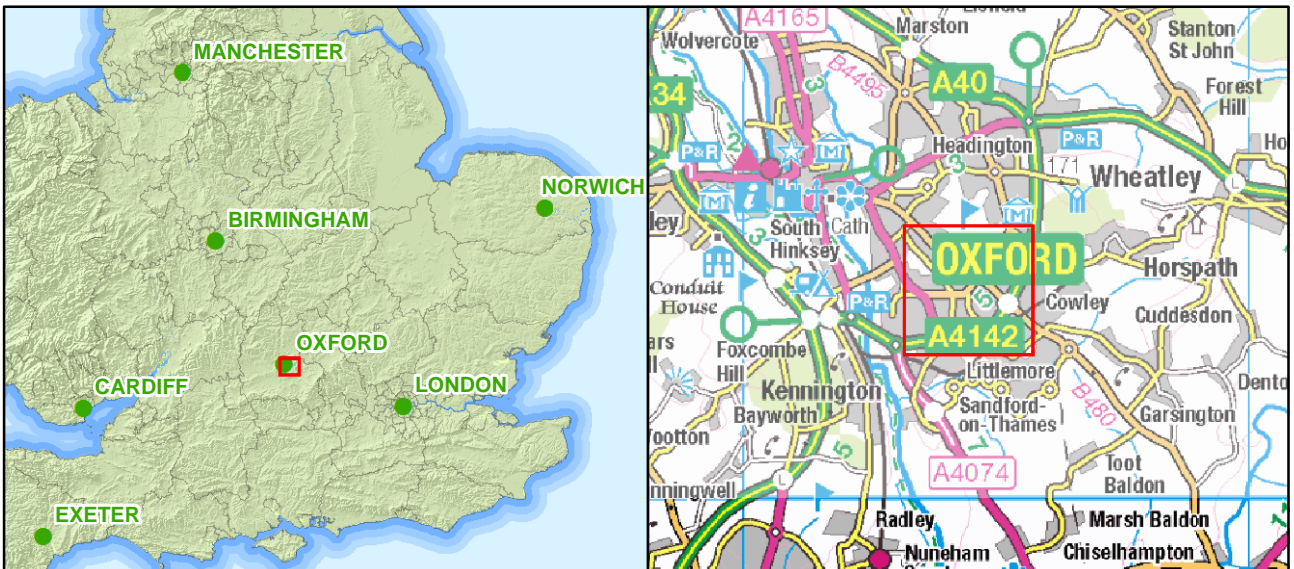
Type: Evaluation

Date and duration: 3 days from 5th to 9th January 2015

Area of site: 3 x trenches 9m long x 2m

Summary of results: Three trenches were excavated, of which only Trench 2, targeted specifically on key geophysical anomalies, contained features of Roman date, principally represented by a late Roman pit which had been heavily truncated by modern features. The small pottery assemblage from this feature included a rare white ware flagon face mask. Trench 1 contained no features, while a small pit in Trench 3 was of post-medieval date. Irregular patches of stone in this area were probably a natural formation. The contents of the pit in Trench 2 are consistent with immediately local production but there was no evidence for kiln structures or related material and the evaluated area may lie towards the margins of the Cowley production site.

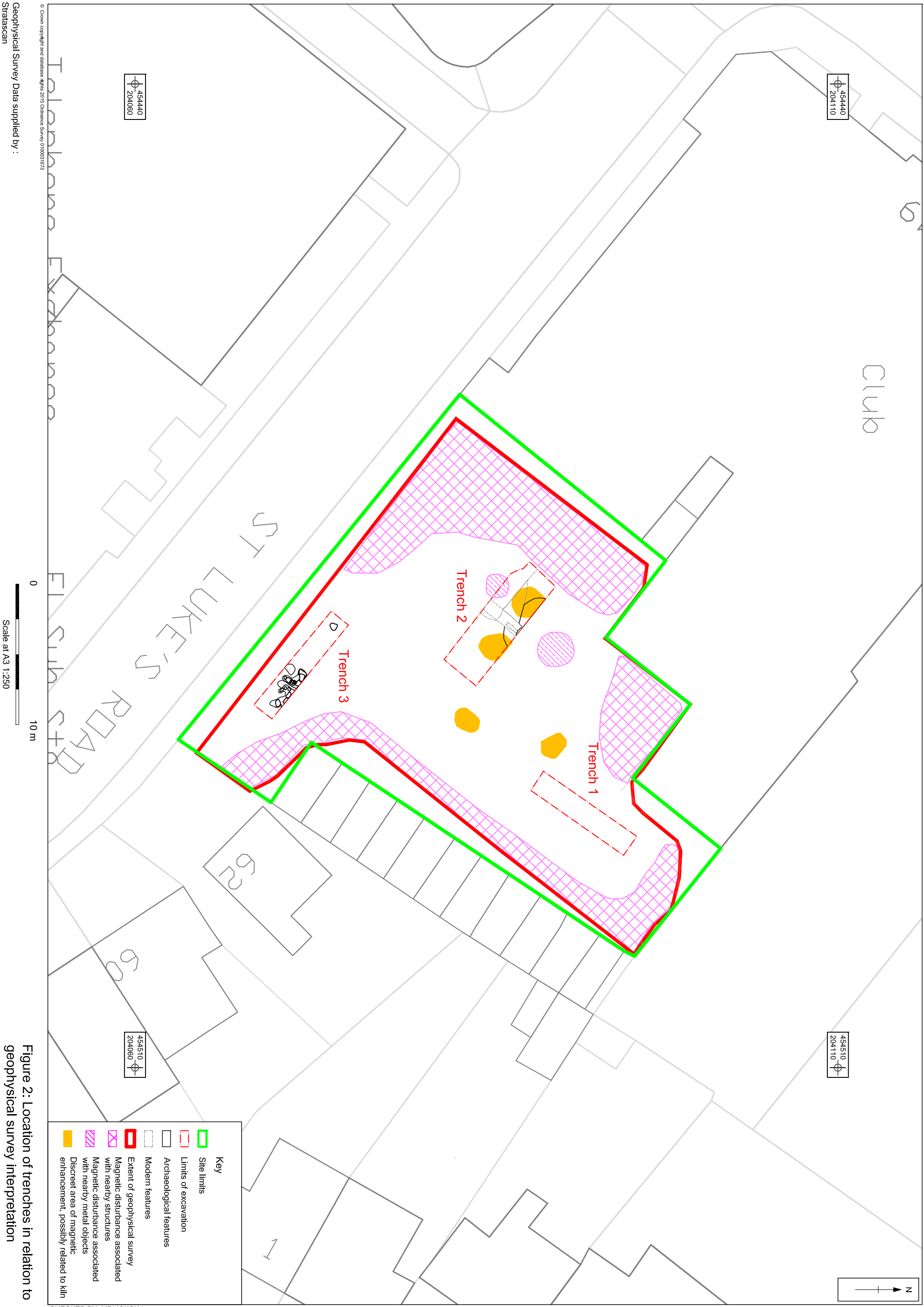
Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with the Oxfordshire County Museum in due course, under the following accession number: OXCMS 2015.2



\\SERVER1\invoice codes i thru q\O_codes\OXBTNE\VOXB\TNEV_Fig01.mxd*hammah.kennedy*15/01/2015

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2014
 (c) OpenStreetMap and contributors, Creative Commons-Share Alike License (CC-BY-SA)

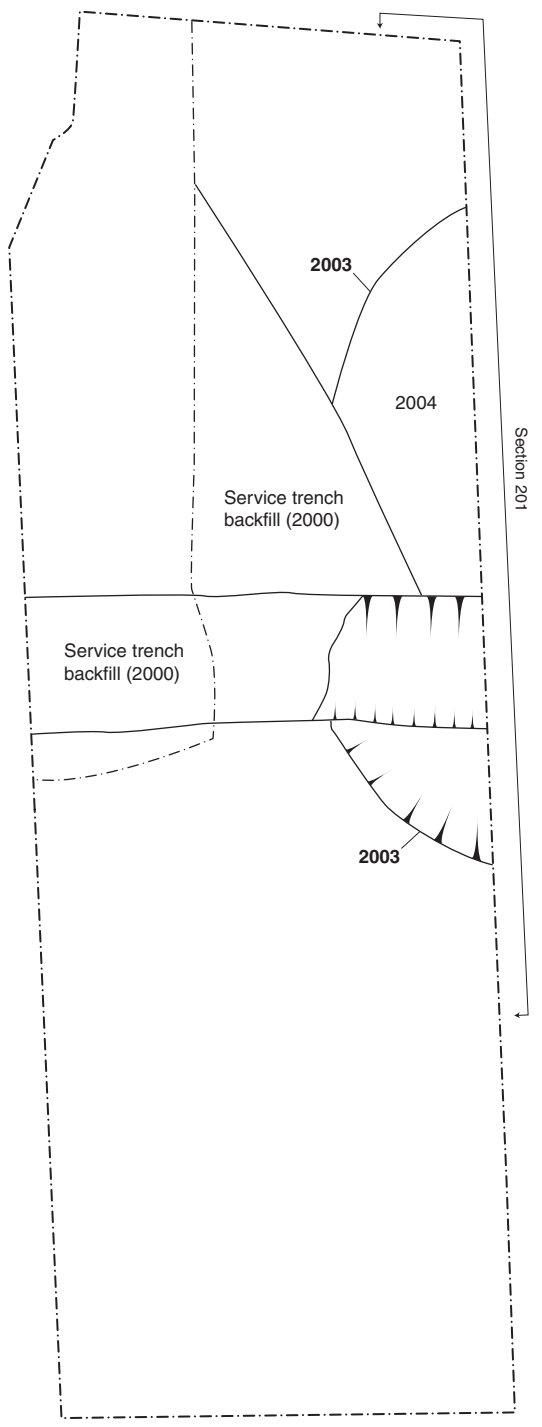
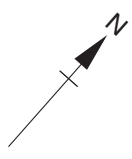
Figure 1: Site location



Key	
	Site limits
	Limits of excavation
	Archaeological features
	Modern features
	Extent of geophysical survey
	Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby structures
	Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal objects
	Discrete area of magnetic enhancement, possibly related to kiln

Figure 2: Location of trenches in relation to geophysical survey interpretation

Trench 2
Plan 201



Trench 3
Plan 300

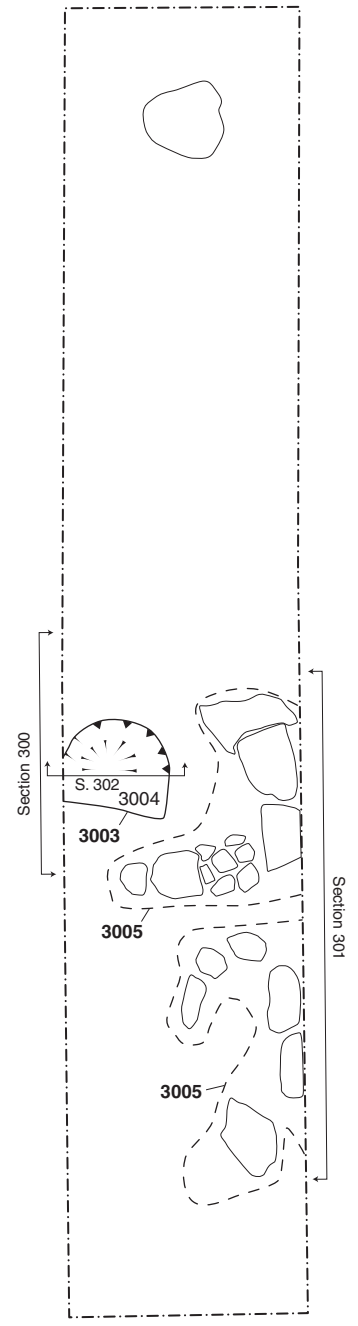


Figure 3: Trench 2 and 3 plans

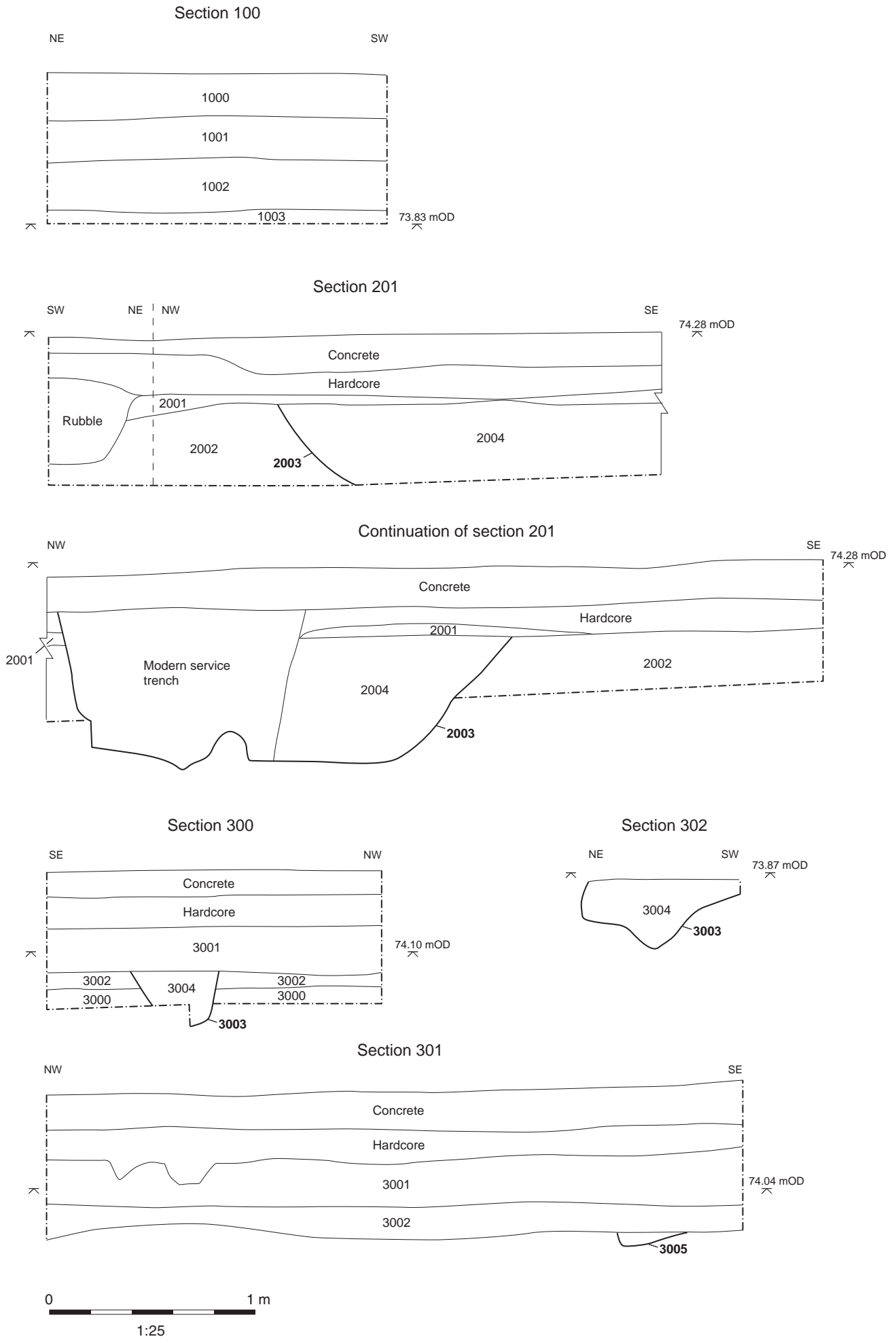


Figure 4: Sections 100, 201 and 300-302



0 40 mm
2:1

Figure 5: Late Roman white ware pottery moulded face from context 2004



**Head Office/Registered Office/
OA South**

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MIFA
*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a
Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627*